DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 366 434 PS 022 003

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TITLE At-Risk "Parent and Family" School Involvement: Strategies for Low Income Families and African-American Families of Unmotivated and Underachieving Students.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-398-05877-6
PUB DATE 93
NOTE 110p.
AVAILABLE FROM Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, 2600 South First Street, Springfield, IL 62794-9265 ($29.75).
PUB TYPE Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055) -- Books (010)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Academic Achievement; *Blacks; Early Childhood Education; Educational Attitudes; Educational Innovation; Elementary School Students; Elementary Secondary Education; Family Involvement; Family School Relationship; *High Risk Students; *Low Income Groups; *One Parent Family; *Parent Participation; Parent School Relationship; Preschool Children; Secondary School Students
IDENTIFIERS African Americans; Parent Expectations

ABSTRACT

This book is designed to provide parents and educators with a set of innovative strategies effective in getting low socioeconomic status (SES) and African-American families meaningfully involved in the educational process of their children, thus motivating the children to achieve and behave better in school. Chapter 1 discusses the need for innovation in public elementary and secondary schools, stressing that schools should become more parent and family focused and that parents should become more actively involved with their children's schools. Chapter 2 examines the reasons why parents, especially single and African-American parents, do not get involved with their children's schools and suggests some strategies that educators can use to help improve parent involvement. Chapter 3 addresses the negative attitudes and experiences that many teachers have when attempting to increase low SES and African-American parent involvement, listing specific negative attitudes and experiences and suggesting ways to transform these negative experiences into positive ones. Chapter 4 explains the need for school administrators to actively promote parent involvement, providing specific suggestions for parent and family involvement programs and policies. Chapter 5 briefly discusses the importance of proper role models for low SES and African-American children and Asian-Americans' parental expectations. Contains 59 references. (MDM)

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